

Sentinel Booster Club Meeting
March 11, 2019

Attendees: Kim Brown, Andy Common, Amy Dupras, Carlett Hogan, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Rebecca Jasmine, Sindie Kennedy, Julie McLennan and Dane Oliver

Guests: Cassidy Brooks (Speech & Drama), Craig Mettler (Track & Field), Dustin Delridge (Softball), Jay Jagelski (Boys' Basketball) and Kelly Crisp (Tennis)

Welcome Special Guests:

Kelly Crisp - Tennis

About 50 students showed up for tryouts. They must practice inside until the players can get outside. They will hit tennis balls against the gym wall. The team will be getting outside in two weeks, weather dependent. They cannot move snow off the tennis courts. There are no nets. The first match is scheduled for the first week of April. Tryouts will take longer. If they could get on the courts, cuts could occur during the first three days. The three weeks of tryout will be used as best as possible. The goal is to have 18 players on each team (girls and boys). Extras can be kept if there is not an obvious choice for cutting. It is not a fun decision. Rebecca Jasmine is handling fundraising. She talked to the team today. There are a couple of seniors that are interested in doing a WeFund4You campaign. They will shoot a video to add to the campaign. There is another senior girl who is going to ask for donations. The program received an anonymous donation. They need to raise \$8,000 to \$9,000 for the program, to include covering the cost of new uniforms. An invitational tournament will take place April 26 and 27, to include every AA school in the state. There was discussion about using this event to conduct more fundraising, including inviting food trucks and selling t-shirts. The seniors have created logos for their own uniforms. A specific logo would be needed for the invitational tournament. There was discussion of having t-shirt presses at each location (Playfair, UM and Fort Missoula). Power is needed at all three locations. Tents could be set-up, as well. Sindie and Carlett offered to look into the possibility of selling t-shirts to-order at the Invitational tournament. Sindie explained the program will receive \$250 because the Booster Club board members who have students on the tennis team have already worked closet shifts.

Dustin Delridge - Softball

Last year, 20 members of the team traveled to the state finals tournament. They can only suit up 17 players. For the most part, it worked out. Tryouts were today. Twenty-two girls showed up. Dustin does not anticipate making any cuts. There are two seniors on the team this year. The team lost six starters from last year. This group is going to be fun to coach. They are excited. The first game is against Frenchtown at Frenchtown. It is a night game. They will have all the snow off the field. There will be a jamboree in Great Falls. It was cancelled last year. It should work out this year. The softball program does not need to do any fundraising. They are looking to some parents to bid on a shelter. They want a pitching lane. A pitching lane could be built where the batting cage is right now.

Craig Mettler - Track and Field

Tryouts were today; 140 students signed up. There will probably be around 150 students because some could not be there today. Last year, the girls were defending state champions. Four throwers went to Division 1. The boys have a chance to make some noise. There are 16 staff members with five or six volunteers. The team has the same issue as other programs with the weather. They are doing the best with what they have. It should be a good season. The distance students are running outside. Everyone else is inside. The track has been cleared in some spots. The sprinters and hurdlers should be able to get out there soon. The hurdles are in the garage which is buried. The area for the throwers, jumpers and pole vaulters is still covered with snow. There will need to be some more clearing of snow. The first meet is April 7 at Glacier. We will see if that happens. There is an unusual amount of snow this year.

Jay Jagelski – Boys' Basketball

Boys' basketball finished in 7th place this year at the state tournament. They had a 17-8 record. They placed second in the conference; third in divisional. The program is moving in the right direction right now. There is a young core - a lot of sophomores (arguably, the best players). Unofficially, in the past few years, the team has finished in the top 5.

Cassidy Brooks - Speech & Debate

The Speech and Debate team has had an amazing year. They had just under 80 students this season. Five years ago, they had 30 students. The program growth has continued every year. The team puts in a long season that starts in October. They had a banquet last week. The program is experiencing some growing pains. The varsity squad can only include 42 students. This means leaving students at home or getting them at a different event. This year, the JV team went to Corvallis. The team placed 4th in the state. The Kalispell team always wins. Sentinel wants to break into the top three teams in the state. They will graduate 11 students this year. During the final tournament in February, 10 students qualified to go to nationals in Dallas. This is the best Sentinel has ever done. Nationals take place the week after school ends. It is a high honor to get to qualify for this event. The students are getting amazing experience at nationals. Students come back and share their experience. The team will be fundraising to get those students to Dallas. They will need to raise \$14,000. Hellgate had two qualifiers that Sentinel will adopt. So, there will be 12 students going to Nationals.

Dane Oliver Update

Dane sent an email about trophy cases. Dimensions are needed. Amy, Lisa, Dane, Ted Fuller and the architect met to discuss placement of trophy cases. Sentinel has three cases already planned. There will be two outside of the cafeteria. A case will be added upstairs in the place of the old concession stand. There will be more traffic upstairs. If we build new ones, there should be enough for all the activities. The booster club will cover the costs to build the cases. Amy or Lisa need to email Ted and let him know the booster club will purchase the cases. The group will need to meet with the architect one more time. Trophy cases for band, orchestra and choir were already being taken care of by the school.

A parent representative for Track & Field has stepped up to take on coordinating the decorating of their trophy case. Amy is working on recruiting a contact for boys' soccer (Casey Dirnberger) and boys' basketball (Sharon Cole).

Spring sports started today. There was great participation. The tryouts went smoothly with all three sports. Boys basketball looked very good at the state tournament. The pep band was amazing. The dance team did very well. The cheerleaders had their best performance. Billings did not send their pep band. Their cheerleaders showed up late. Dane was proud of the Sentinel students; they behaved well. Dane asked if the Booster Club could pay for the Pep Band meal (\$290). There was agreement by the booster club board, via email, to cover the cost.

Dustin asked if the booster club could help with the cost of the softball batting cage shelter. It was determined the booster club could help cover some of costs.

Booster Closet:

The booster club will open up the closet for softball. Boys basketball has not worked a closet yet.

Booster Club Scholarships

The process felt rushed last year. The application process could be moved up to get out by May 1. It would be nice to award the scholarships at the senior assembly. We could announce the winners at the assembly in front of the student body.

Dane feels the booster club has momentum and is growing. He is liking the direction the booster club is moving.

Sindie asked if we will still require booster club membership in order to compete for the scholarship. The idea was to keep it the same. The purpose of the scholarship is to give back but to also promote the booster club. We need more signage. We use the Remind App, email, Facebook.

There was discussion about the scholarship amount and doing more fundraising. Kim brought up the idea of a poker night. Amy talked about the new space above the gym that could be a space for holding a "tailgate" before basketball games.

Minutes:

Kim made a motion to approve the minutes. Lisa seconded. All approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The budget looks good. We are where we need to be. We got Amazon Smile money (\$21).

There was a question as to why there is income on buttons. We get money back to offset the cost. We are getting \$1 per button. We are charging a little bit above cost.

There were two more payouts. Next month, payouts will go to Tennis, Softball and Track.

Tennis Invitational - Universal Athletics can create the design. Would have to coordinate with Universal or Stitches or the Shirt Shop. Lisa will talk with Dane to make sure we can do this.

The tennis program is buying all new uniforms and warm-up suits. Therefore, they are fundraising. Rebecca said the seniors are designing their uniforms. Could see if those seniors want to design a logo for the invitational.

Lisa will connect with Dane. She will ask what about next steps.

Year-round Activities:

Band

Sindie reported that the students went to Bozeman for the AA Band Festival. They are getting ready to go to Carnegie Hall in New York. They have some spring performances coming up before spring break. Pep Band went to the state Basketball tournament. The Buddy Defranco jazz festival is this weekend at the university.

Custodian Appreciation Day

The booster club could host this during the third week in April. Next month's meeting is on the 8th. Carlett volunteered to do something. April 18th we will do Custodian Appreciation Day. Andy offered to help. Sindie and Carlett offered to help.

Administrative Staff Appreciation Day

The booster club could host this in May during the first week (Staff Appreciation Week) -

8th Grade Promotion

We could send out a flyer to come over and buy gifts for incoming freshmen. Amy and Carlett volunteered. Invite Lolo, CS Porter, Meadow Hill and Washington. We will need to figure out a date for opening the closet for 8th Grade Promotion.

Mod Pizza fundraiser coming up on the 18th.

Next Meeting: April 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM.